

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ilya Zborovsky on March 2, 2010.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

- Claim 1, line 15: "convex" and "straight" have been deleted.
- Claim 9, lines 11-12: the phrase "and wherein at least one second free face section (10b) follows the first free face section (10a)," has been deleted.
- Claim 9, line 13: --(H)-- has been inserted between "height" and "is".
- Claim 9, line 17: "convex" and "straight" have been deleted.
- Claim 9, line 17: "(3)" has been changed to --(E)--.
- Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11.(Currently Amended) A drilling tool (1) for percussion drilling, which comprises a cutting element (3) that is configured as a plate (3) or head and that has at least one cutting edge (11) defined by a cutting face (6) and a free face (10),

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wherein the cutting edge (11) is associated with a first free face section (10a) which lies in a cutting plane (CP) and is followed by a second free face section (10b), wherein the cutting plane (CP) is cut at a right angle to the cutting edge (11) and wherein the first free face section (10a) is convex and is limited by a convex bulge (13) or a convex polygon outline (15), while the second free face section (10b) is straight, wherein a rib (14) is defined by the first free face section (10a) and an associated first cutting face section (6a), wherein a vertical height (H) of said rib (14) ranges from 0.1 mm to 1.0 mm, wherein the vertical height (H) of the rib (14) decreases toward the longitudinal axis (L).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT E. FULLER whose telephone number is (571)272-0419. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday from 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David J. Bagnell can be reached on 571-272-6999. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David J. Bagnell/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3672

03/02/2010
/R.E.F./